

PATENT SPECIFICATION



Application Date: Sept. 18, 1931. No. 26,182/31.

Complete Left: June 20, 1932.

Complete Accepted: March 20, 1933.

PROVISIONAL SPECIFICATION

Improvements in Decoys.

389,522

EXAMINER'S

COPY

Div. 2

We, MAX BAKER, of Carisbrooke, Thoroughgood Road, Clacton-on-Sea, Essex, a British Subject, and IMPERIAL CHEMICAL INDUSTRIES LIMITED, of Imperial Chemical House, Millbank, London, S.W. 1, a British Company, do hereby declare the nature of this invention to be as follows:

This invention relates to decoys used in shooting wild birds, especially wood pigeons, and its principal objects are to provide decoys which are more life-like when seen at short distances, such as 20 yards, than decoys at present in use, and which are also easily and easily portable. The existing decoys are usually a solid figure of wood or other suitable material, the surface is painted to imitate the bird, but most of these decoys are not easily portable and their bulk as a rule makes it inconvenient to carry them in numbers.

According to the invention, a decoy for wild birds consists of a hollow shape representing the upper half of a bird with head down in feeding attitude. The point of support for the decoy is preferably a pivot or socket set inside the hollow shape, and therefore well above the surface of the ground, so that the decoy may be seen and the also seen in the manner of feeding, under the influence of the wind. The support may consist of a metal or wooden pin, which is thrust into the ground, and this pin may carry at its upper end a spiral or leaf spring to fit into the pivot or socket in the hollow back of the decoy. Alternatively, or in combination with the spring, the support may comprise a simple pivot system to enable the decoy to peck at imaginary food and obey the wind in the manner of a weather vane. All these various methods of supporting the hollow shape produce motion of the decoy, not only in the form of feeding or pecking motion but also by providing a means for automatically causing the decoys to face upwind, as is the habit of real birds, which is a necessity for successful decoying. The decoy may also be threaded on a line which is worked by the shooter in the usual way.

The improved decoy may be manufactured by moulding a suitable plastic material or by joining together pieces of suitably cut paper, felt, cardboard, or the like on a mandrel. The final shape should follow the profile of the bird as seen from above or at a slight angle. The shape is then covered with fabric to strengthen it and to give feather-like texture to the surface, the edges being sewn, fastened or turned over in any convenient manner. The decoy is then painted with paint having a large proportion of oil or other binding agent, which will saturate the fabric, bind down the edges and shape, and give a durable yet flexible shell. The necessary colour should be applied in one coat in order to give a uniform surface, as is necessary when decoying, since paint applied as later coats tends to form a shiny skin which is fatal to decoying these birds. Since any part of the hollow interior of the decoy that might be visible would be seen in shadow instead of appearing as the lighter coloured underside of the bird, the inside should be painted white or in a very light shade. Imitation eyes may be made of brass eyelets, the ring of iris of the same suitably coloured and the central hole representing iris and pupil respectively. The pivot or socket in the hollow back of the decoy may be added at any suitable stage of the manufacture.

The resulting decoys are light and easily portable, since the shells will fit one inside the other. They are not, of course, suitable as decoys to float on water, but may be adapted for this purpose by closing the open end of the shell or by supporting them on suitable floating bases, e.g. thin sheets of cork cut to the proper shape.

Dated this 18th day of September, 1931.

E. A. BINGEN
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Solicitor for the Applicants.

Improvements in Decoys

The hollow shank may be placed on the ground, or it may be threaded on a line and worked up the shank in the usual manner, but it is preferable to support and balance upon the end of a pin which is set vertically in the ground. The connection between the decoy and the supporting pin or thread is preferably a pivot or socket set inside the hollow of the back and therefore well above the centre of gravity of the shank so that the decoy may sway to and fro, also see-saw in the manner of feeding, under the influence of the wind. The supporting pin may be of metal or wood, and this pin may carry at its upper end a helical or leaf spring to fit into the pivot or socket in the hollow back of the decoy. Alternatively, or in combination with the spring, the support

The accompanying drawings illustrate one form of decoy made in accordance with the invention.

Figure 1 is an oblique view of the decoy as seen from above.

Figure 2 is a side elevation of the decoy supported above the ground by means of a pin.

Figure 3 is a cross section through the line A—B of Figure 2, looking in the direction of the arrows.

Figure 4 is a cross section through the line C—D of Figure 2.

Figure 5 is a cross section through the line E—F of Figure 2.

Figure 6 is a detail of the pivot support as shown in Figure 4.

Figure 7 is a detail of an alternative type of pivot support taking the form of a spring.

This type of decoy may be manufactured as follows.

Referring to Figure 4, two pieces of packing kraft 12 and 13 of similar type of cardboard, are cut to the correct contour and bent or pressed along the longitudinal axis on a suitably shaped mandrel to the shape shown in Figure 2. The adjacent surfaces of the sheets are now covered with a water proof adhesive material and the two pieces are securely joined together by being retained in firm contact with each other on the mandrel. This construction ensures that the decoy retains its correct shape even after being thoroughly wetted.

The outside of the decoy is then covered with a suitable fabric 14, Figure 4, which is secured to the shell by means of a water proof adhesive. The edge is sewn, fastened or turned over in any convenient manner, as shown at 10 in Figures 3, 4 and 5.

The whole of the outer cover provides a tension covering giving strength to the structure. The nose of the bird is formed by pressing the material at the front of the decoy to give a solid appearance as illustrated in Figures 1, 2 and 3. The contour of the tail is slightly waved as shown in Figure 1, in order to give a life-like appearance to the decoy.

At a convenient stage a socket or eyelet 6 is fitted to the upper portion of the shell as shown in Figures 2 and 4, immediately above the centre of gravity of the decoy. This is used to pivot the shell to the supporting pin 9. Eyelets are fitted in positions 8, Figures 1 and 2, to represent the eyes.

The structure is then painted as described above. The amount of paint can be reduced by coating with size prior to painting, care being taken that the amount of size used is not sufficient to impart a glossy appearance to the paint subsequently applied.

The finished appearance of the decoy is obtained by painting the body generally, as shown in Figure 1. The following

colours are suitable for wood pigeon decoys:—The main body of the bird 1 as shown in Figures 1 and 2 is painted a uniform slate grey. The centre portion is painted light blue and the wings 2 and tail 3 are coloured light black or dark green. To complete the like-like appearance of the decoy, white patches and lines are introduced at points 5 and 7. In order to avoid a dark shadow being cast by the decoy, the inside of the shell 15, Figure 4, should be painted a light colour.

Satisfactory decoys may also be constructed by making a wire frame and covering same with unglazed linoleum having a matt finish. The hollow shell can also be satisfactorily made by pressing into a mould of the required shape, papier maché or other suitable plastic material which after moulding sets into a rigid but non-brittle form.

Having now particularly described and ascertained the nature of our said invention and in what manner the same is to be performed, we declare that what we claim is:

1. A decoy for wild birds consisting of a hollow shape the upper portion of which has the form of and represents the upper part of a bird, preferably with head down in feeding attitude, and the lower portion of which is substantially completely open so that it is adapted to fit inside a similar decoy, thereby rendering a number of such decoys readily portable.

2. A decoy as claimed in claim 1, having a socket or eyelet in the hollow back for the reception of a supporting pin.

3. A decoy as claimed in claim 2, adapted to pivot on the pin and to obey the wind in the manner of a weather vane.

4. A decoy as claimed in any of claims 1—3, in which the shape comprises two or more layers of suitably cut paper, felt, cardboard or the like, which are joined by waterproof adhesive material.

5. A decoy as claimed in any of claims 1—3, in which the shape is moulded from papier maché or other suitable plastic material.

6. A decoy as claimed in any of claims 1—3, in which the shape comprises a wire frame covered with unglazed linoleum or the like.

7. A decoy as claimed in claim 4, 5, or 6, in which the shape is covered with fabric, which is painted with the necessary colours in such a way as to obtain a matt finish.

8. The improved decoys and means for supporting the same, substantially as hereinbefore described, with reference to the accompanying drawings.

Dated the 18th day of June, 1932.

389,522

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Solicitor for the Applicants.

Redhill: Printed for His Majesty's Stationery Office, by Love & Malcomson, Ltd., 1933.

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Baker

[This Drawing is a reproduction of the Original on a reduced scale.]

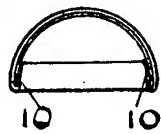
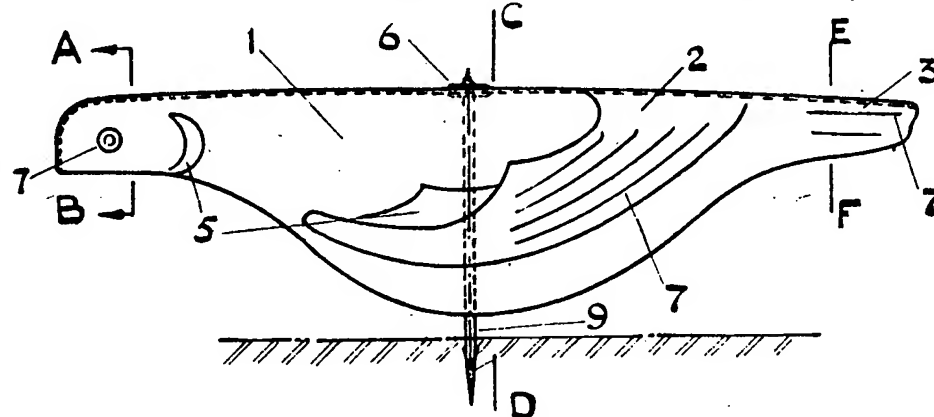
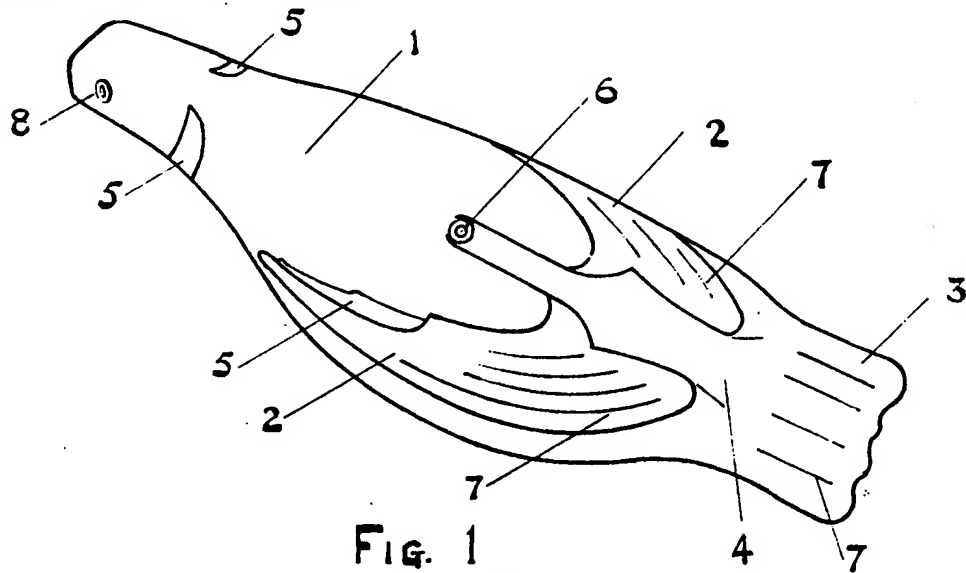


FIG. 3

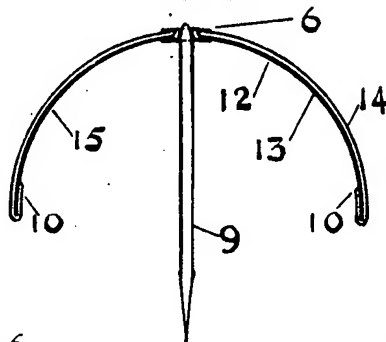


FIG. 4

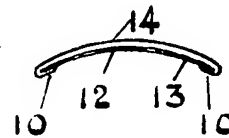


FIG. 5

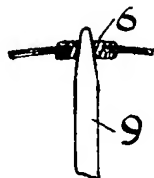


FIG. 6

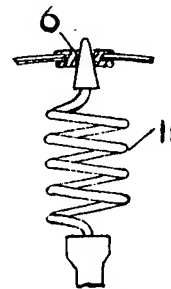


FIG. 7

Malby & Sons, Photo-Litho.

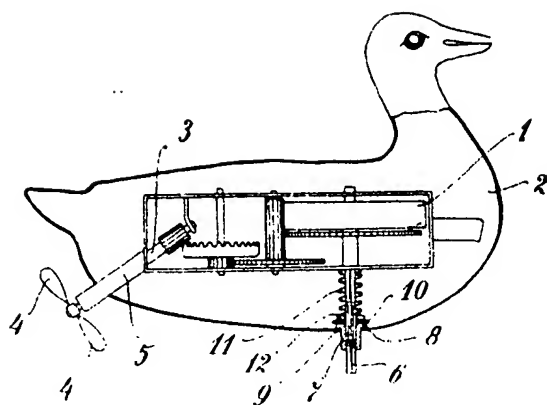
43. FISHING & TRAPPING

Decoys.

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46. Figure Toys

Hannow
Zu der Patentschrift 226674
Oct. 6, 1910



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